APPENDIX G: STATEWIDE, REGIONAL, & PARTNER AGENCY PRIORITIES
PRIORITIES LOCATED IN REGIONAL WATER BOARD 4

Applicants must identify priorities that their project will address using the following format:
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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**
State Water Resources Control Board (Agency ID: SWRCB)	**State Water Board <u>General</u> Priorities:** 1. Projects that include the development of a Hydrologic Model that will predict unimpaired flows in streams throughout California. The initial focus should be on the Russian River and its tributaries. The model should be capable of adding impairments (water diversions and use, instream flow requirements etc. for the determination if there is water available for appropriation. 2. Projects that include the development of a geographic information system (GIS) that identifies the location of dams and reservoirs on topographic maps. The layers should include all known water diversions, locations of sensitive fish and wildlife habitat. A layer should provide the location of sensitive fish and wildlife habitat. A layer should provide the location of stream reaches that have water right permit of license minimum instream flow requirements. Layers should also identify the location of fully appropriated streams, and designated wild and scenic rivers. 3. Projects to develop and test rapid indicators that detect bacterial contamination in a rapid and cost efficient manner. Projects must be designed to help meet the need for a fast, reliable, accurate and inexpensive way to test beach water quality. 4. Projects to conduct epidemiology studies to better understand and develop methods to monitor the risk of swimming at non-point source contaminated beaches. The need for, and prioritization of, mitigation actions at beach with high bacterial counts is dependent on a better understanding of the relationship between these indicators and health risk. Epidemiology studies should include efforts to associate the incidence of health effects with rapid indicators and new indicators. 5. Projects to develop new quantifiable, accurate and relatively inexpensive indicators: preferably those indicators that are actually human pathogens. The new indicators need to be tied to epidemiology study results to ensure that they are indeed quantifying health risk and must useable by most environmental microbiology labs. 6. Projects to develop Source and test Tracking tools, which are a requirement under Assembly Bill 538 (Statutes 1999, Chapter 488), to help environmental health managers identify sources of fecal contamination. 7. Projects to evaluate the effectiveness of best management practices (BMPs) such as circulation enhancements, treatment wetlands, some end of pipe treatment package plants, antibacterial filter materials, and treatment wetlands. A focused investigation of BMP effectiveness of projects to improve circulation needs to be done in order to

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	determine the best approach to improve enclosed beach water quality and protect human health. 8. Projects to improve understanding of and the ability to monitor bacterial Transport Mechanisms, including Bacterial magnification and regrowth. **State Water Board Ocean <u>Protection Project</u> Priorities:** *These priorities, along with the priorities identified by the Ocean Protection Council, must be met in order to apply for the $10 million of the Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program funds devoted to ocean protection projects.* 9. A project to complete the development, validation, assistance in certification, and implementation of Rapid Indicators of beach pathogen contamination. (Rapid Indicators is a statewide priority.) 10. Projects to implement control strategies, and to eliminate nonpoint source (NPS) discharges to areas of special biological significance (ASBS) and their adjacent Critical Coastal Areas (CCAs).

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4

Priorities

Regional Water Quality Control Board 4 (Agency ID: RWQCB 4)

Watersheds	Pollutant of Concern &/or activity	Type of Project*	Measurable water quality Result
1. Los Angeles River	Trash	Projects meeting the "full capture" definition in the Trash TMDL and for projects that will address large drainages.	Trash discharges in the facility drainage area to meet the final TMDL Waste Load Allocation.
2. Los Angeles River	Metals	Projects that implement the Metals TMDL (adopted by the Regional Board on June 2, 2005) that incorporate an integrated water resources approach and address multiple pollutants including toxic metals and bacteria.	Discharges from facility drainage area to meet applicable TMDL allocations. Reduced pollutant concentrations in water column and sediments.
3. San Gabriel River	Metals/Sediment	Projects that reduce sediment, metals and other toxic discharges and incorporate an integrated water resources approach. A Metals TMDL under development will be closely modeled on the L.A. River Metals TMDL.	Discharges from facility drainage area to meet applicable TMDL allocations. Reduced pollutant concentrations in water column and sediments.
4. San Gabriel River (Upper Watershed)	Trash/Pathogens	Projects that implement control/removal of Trash and Pathogens in the upper watershed.	Attainment of Recreation standards, trash load reductions, etc.

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	5. San Gabriel River (Upper Watershed)	Sedimentation	Implement environmentally sensative/protective sediment removal and/or disposal (non-sluicing) from reservoirs and remidate impacts from previous sluicing acitivites	Restore damaged areas from previous sluicing projects or implement direct removal projects
	6. Dominguez Channel	Metals /Toxics/ Bacteria	Projects that reduce sediment, metals and other toxic discharges and incorporate an integrated water resources approach. TMDLs under development will closely model those for Ballona Creek and Calleguas Creek Toxic TMDLs.	Reduction in metals, PAHs, PCBs, levels in water column and in sediment.
	7. Santa Monica Bay	Pathogens	Projects that implement the Santa Monica Bay Beaches wet-weather bacteria TMDL and incorporate an integrated water resources approach.	Beaches in drainage area to meet Wet-Weather Allocations in Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL.
	8. Marina del Rey	Pathogens	Projects that will attain the wet-weather waste load or load allocations in the Marina del Rey Harbor Bacteria TMDL and incorporate an integrated water resources approach.	Mothers Beach and other Back Basins to meet Marina del Rey Harbor Wet-Weather waste load allocations.
	9. Marina del Rey	Pathogens	Facilities for marine pump out and upgrades of existing facilities or other facilities to reduce potential bacteria discharges from marine vessels or other nonpoint sources.	Lower bacteria counts throughout the Harbor.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**				
	10. Ballona Creek and Estuary	Metals, Historic Pesticides, PAHs, PCBs	Projects that will meet the Ballona Creek Metals TMDL and the Ballona Creek Estuary Toxics TMDL wet-weather waste load allocations and which incorporate an integrated water resources approach.	Discharges from facility drainage area to meet applicable TMDL allocations.	
	11. Ballona Creek and Estuary	Pathogens	Projects that will meet the wet-weather WLA as defined in the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL and which incorporate an integrated water resources approach.	Ballona Creek to meet the Santa Monica Bay wet-weather Bacteria waste load allocations.	
	12. Ballona Creek and Estuary	Trash	Projects meeting the "full capture" definition in the Trash TMDL and for projects that will address large drainages.	Trash discharges in the facility drainage area to meet the final TMDL Waste Load Allocation.	
	13. Ballona Creek and Estuary		Facilities that will meet Waste Load Allocations for bacteria, metals and toxics and incorporate an integrated water resources approach.	Meet the final WLAs in all Ballona Creek TMDLs.	
	14. Malibu Creek	Pathogens, total nitrogen, total phosphorus	Projects that will replace OSWTs with a centralized POTW and/or for upgrades to POTWs to reduce nutrient discharges to the Creek or its tributaries.	Reduced bacteria levels in Malibu Creek and Lagoon. Reductions in total nitrogen, total phosphorus, decreased levels of algae, enhanced benthic and amphibian communities.	

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	15. Malibu Creek	Sedimentation	Off line facilities to reduce wet-weather sediment discharges to Malibu Creek and its tributaries. In-stream sedimentation basins are to be discouraged, and will be ranked as a low priority.	Decreased siltation of creeks, lakes and in the Lagoon. Improved benthic communities.
	16. Calleguas Creek	Historic OC Pesticides, OP Pesticides, Toxicity, Silt, Metals	Projects that reduce silt, pesticides, and metals and will attain final allocations as specified in the Calleguas Creek Historic Pesticide and Siltation TMDL or the Toxicity TMDL adopted by the Regional Board on July 7, 2005.	Waterbodies to meet applicable final TMDL allocations. Decreased toxicity and siltation resulting in improved aquatic communities.
	17. Calleguas Creek	Sedimentation	Off-line facilities to reduce wet-weather sediment discharges to Calleguas Creek and its tributaries. In-stream sedimentation basins are to be discouraged, and will be ranked as a low priority.	Decreased siltation of creeks, lakes and in the Lagoon. Improved benthic communities.
	18. Calleguas Creek	Chloride, Salts	Projects that reduce Chloride discharges to Calleguas Creek or to groundwater.	In stream choride levels to be reduced to at least below existing water quality choride objective of 150 mg/L, below aquatic life impacts.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**			
	19. Santa Clara River	Chloride, Salts	Projects that reduce Chloride discharges to the Santa Clara River or to groundwater.	In stream choride levels to be reduced to at least below existing water quality choride objective of 100 mg/L, supporting the agricultural water supply beneficial use.
	20. Santa Clara River	Nutrients	Projects that will divert sewage discharges from OSWTs to POTW designed to meet the waste load allocation in the Santa Clara River Nitrogen TMDL or septic tank prohibition.	To reduce total nitrogen discharges to groundwater which is used as a drinking water supply and to the Santa Clara River. Reductions in nitrogen levels in groundwater will not be evident for some time.
	21. Regional Marinas & Channel Islands Harbor	Bacteria	Adding facilities for marine pump out and upgrades of existing facilities or other facilities to reduce potential bacteria discharges from marine vessels or other nonpoint sources.	To reduce bacteria discharges from marine vessels in the harbor. Reductions in bacteria levels in the harbor.
	22. Ventura River	Metals (Selenium)/Sediment	Off-line facilities to reduce wet-weather sediment discharges to the river and its tributaries. In-stream sedimentation basins are to be discouraged, and will be ranked as a low priority.	Decreased siltation in the River during next wet-weather season.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**			
	REGION WIDE			
	23. Los Angeles Region	Stream Stabilization/erosion control	Implement stream stabilization/erosion control measures in combination with habitat enhancement in highly erosive/unstable areas using "green" methods.	Cost effective, multipurpose projects that reduce regional stabilization/erosion hot spots.
	24. Los Angeles Region	Habitat Restoration	Restoration of riparian corridors, wetlands and native habitats through sustainable stream/wetlands/floodplain habitat restoration activities that include improving habitat connectivity, whenever possible, and may include invasive species eradication, as appropriate	Improvement in Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) score for the benthic community from very poor/poor to at least fair; or improvement from fair to good depending on the original condition. Connection of habitats.
	25. Los Angeles Region	Regional or sub-regional stormwater treatment or infiltration of 0.75 inch rainfall above & beyond permit requirements	Source control projects such as the reduction of imperviousness, Low Impact Development and Sustainable Development Measures, and sediment load reduction	Additional volume per area infiltrated or other quantiable meassure.

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	26. Los Angeles Region	Implement salinity control programs (chloride & other compounds) in inland waters	Include source control (removal of water softeners and other inputs), regional site-specific desalter installation, construction of brine lines, etc. Set up programs that survey commercial flows (e.g. from packing houses, labs, etc.) and old-fashioned water softeners, to quantify and assess ($$$) salt inputs.	Quantifiable reduction of chloride levels, water-softeners, etc. Demonstrated water conservation, reduction, and recycling benefits.
	27. Los Angeles Region	Nearshore fate & transport studies	Conduct detailed studies in nearshore waters subject to TMDLs to determine fate and transport of pollutants that accumulate in sediments and biota	Quantify and characterize pollutants of concern
			Cost effective, integrated, multi-beneficial use projects in impaired watersheds will receive the highest consideration.	**Quantifiable benefits based on either cost per area, volume, load reduction, attainment of water quality standard, or other measure will be used to help select projects.**

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**
Department of Health Services (Agency ID: DHS)	1. Priorities are identified in Appendix A of the Department of Health Services (DHS) Proposition 50 Water Security, clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Section79500 et seq.) which is available at the following website: http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/Prop50/pdfs/CriteriaforChapters3and4-FINAL.pdf. Projects that fit categories A-G are identified as priorities.
Resources Agency (Agency ID: Resources Agency)	1. Projects that will develop, identify, and use appropriate new indicators or identify and use existing indicators for assessments and monitoring of watershed health.
Department of Fish and Game (Agency ID: DFG)	Implement Priority 5 actions identified in the Steelhead Trout Management Tasks Search Website (http://www.dfg.ca.gov/nafwb/steelhead_tasks.asp?show_instructions=1&huname=+3304.&haname=&hsaname=&calwnum=+3304.&high_priority=1&submit=Submit) in the following HUs: 1. Buenaventura 2. Calleguas 3. Dominguez Channel 4. Los Angeles River 5. Oxnard 6. Pitas Point 7. San Gabriel River 8. San Pedro Channel Islands 9. Santa Clara 10. Santa Clara 11. Santa Monica Bay 12. Ventura Coastal Streams 13. Ventura Rivers
Department of Parks and Recreation (Agency ID: DPR)	The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Watersheds listed below are representative of each ecoregion's special physical and biological characteristics. DPR's priorities include watershed assessment, management, planning, implementation, and improvement in watersheds that exhibit high quality characteristics where DPR has ownership and management responsibility. There are many additional DPR watersheds that exhibit high quality characteristics and are

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	also worthy of support. **Please note:** All applicants proposing to do projects on State Park System lands must partner with DPR and provide State Water Resources Control Board with a letter (or official communication) from DPR acknowledging the partnership and endorsing the proposed project. Contact Syd Brown, Natural Resources Division, California Department of Parks and Recreation at sbrow@parks.ca.gov or 916-653-9930 for specifics. **DPR Representative Watersheds** 1. **Big Sycamore Canyon and La Jolla Canyon watersheds,** Point Mugu State Park (SP), connects with Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (NRA) (CCA #59). 2. **Malibu Creek watershed, Malibu Creek SP and Malibu Lagoon State Beach (SB).** Connects with Santa Monica Mountains NRA. Includes Rindge Dam, a candidate for removal, and being evaluated for de-commissioning by Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, State Coastal Conservancy (SCC), and DPR. (CCA #60)

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State Coastal Conservancy (Agency ID: SCC)	1. Projects which enhance summertime stream flows in coastal watersheds. 2. Project which implement Watershed Enhancement Plans developed jointly by watershed groups and the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC). 3. Completion of fish passage barrier removal projects that benefit listed salmon and steelhead stocks. 4. Acquisition of conservation easements that result in the permanent dedication of in-stream flows for salmonid habitat protection. 5. Surface agricultural return flows are returns from water applied to irrigated land, including, but is not limited to, land planted to row, field and tree crops as well as commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, managed wetlands. 6. Installation, operation, and assessment of the efficacy of infrastructure and/or use and assessment of the efficacy of management practices that results in the measurable reduction of stormwater runoff of sediment and pesticides in watershed tributaries. 7. Projects which support capacity to establish and implement locally directed watershed management programs: i.e. programs which include watershed assessments, development of watershed management plans, establish watershed data management capacity, implementation of watershed management plans, community watershed education, and watershed monitoring within the watershed. 8. Projects in a watershed, including the San Francisco Bay, which increase the amount of wetlands that are designed and managed to maximize beneficial uses while minimizing detrimental effects. 9. Projects in a Coastal Watershed that assess the effects of contaminants on aquatic species and develops and implements management projects, including demonstration projects. 10. Projects that assess and address groundwater impacts due to nitrates from confined animal or onsite disposal systems within a watershed. 11. Projects that create, sustain, and/or increase local capacity to plan and implement the targeted projects including projects that provide technical and financial capacity, such as re-granting programs, to newer or smaller stakeholders so that they will eventually be able to plan and implement targeted projects 12. Support similar recovery of at-risk native species in San Francisco Bay and the watershed above the estuary; and

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	minimize the need for future endangered species listings by reversing downward population trends of native species that are not listed. 13. Support projects that rehabilitate natural processes in the Bay and urban watersheds. 14. Continue and expand the watershed coordinator grant program statewide with the goal of creating an environment that encourages watershed Coordinators to collaborate, cooperate and work with diverse stakeholders to build local capacity to implement watershed improvement projects. 15. Projects that implement priorities from existing sediment TMDLs. 16. Monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures that are designed to reduce sediment loads or evaluate the impact of management practices on stream temperature. 17. Inventory and evaluate the adequacy of riparian buffer zones to provide shade for stream channels. 18. Implement management practices that promote the development and restoration of riparian vegetation that provides stream shade in existing temperature TMDLs. 19. Restore and protect wetlands, riparian and other sensitive aquatic habitats. Activities of concern are hydromodofication and other negative impacts to these habitats. Desired results are improvements to function of these habitats as measured by sound science. 20. Improve stakeholder outreach and education (including Grades K-12), and public participation in water quality decisions. 21. Activity of concern is degradation of surface and groundwater quality standards. Desired result is to foster environmental stewardship within the community, thus contributing to the long-term attainment and maintenance of water quality standards. 22. Develop or improve water management plans, based on sound science, to address water quality/quantity and related issues on watershed, cross-watershed or regional basis. 23. Projects that integrate surface and groundwater quality improvement activities while promoting collaborative and cooperative efforts within a watershed, cross-watershed or regional context. 24. Improved coordination of land use planning and water management through applying watershed management strategies within Integrated Regional Water Management planning and implementation efforts.

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	25. Improve water supply reliability through conjunctive use programs and integration of flood management with water supply management. 26. Improved ecological function of floodplains and stream corridors. 27. Projects that include operations and maintenance for multiple years for stream gauging stations. 28. So CA arundo control; 29. Projects located within- a. Dominguez Watershed b. Compton Creek Watershed c. Matillija Dam ecosystem restoration d. Malibu Creek watershed, e. Santa Clara River Parkway f. Santa Monica Mtns. Steelhead Assessment.

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Ocean Protection Council (Agency ID: OPC)	These Guidelines adopt the State Water Board priorities for ocean protection projects. It is anticipated that the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) will adopt their ocean protection project priorities for the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program at their January 13, 2006 meeting. Once adopted by the OPC, their priorities will be posted on the State Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/funding/consolidgrants0506.html
Department of Water Resources (Agency ID: DWR)	**GENERAL PRIORITIES** 1. Improved coordination of land use planning and water management through applying watershed management strategies within Integrated Regional Water Management planning and implementation efforts. 2. Improve water supply reliability through conjunctive use programs and integration of flood management with water supply management. 3. Improved ecological function of floodplains and stream corridors. 4. Assist newly formed (within last 5 years) Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) with capacity building for restoration, stewardship, and water management, e.g. NRCD **WATERSHED SPECIFIC PRIORITIES** 5. Mitigate the impacts from urbanization and channelization in the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Tuhunga Wash to reduce runoff and flooding, increase infiltration and recharge. 6. Restore habitat and increase access and recreation opportunities in American R. tributaries below Folsom Dam, and in the Los Angeles R. and San Gabriel R. 7. Support or establish regional technical assistance and stewardship group coordination in the Sacramento Valley, San Joaquin Valley, Tulare basin, and Southern California from Santa Monica Bay to the Mexican border.
California Bay Delta Authority (Agency ID: CALFED)	**CALFED Bay Delta Program Elements** A focused and clearly made connection in your project between the Watershed Program priorities and one or more other Program Elements is likely to be more persuasive than a more general sweeping attempt to connect all the Elements in one project.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**
	Water Management Program Summary Objectives and priorities for the next 3-5 years 1. Water Management overall objectives: a. Maximize the use of existing available water supplies through conservation, water recycling, transfers and water quality improvements. b. Increase the flexibility of water systems at the state, federal and local level through improvements in conveyance, storage and water project operations. c. Develop groundwater and surface water storage projects to boost flexibility and provide additional supplies for agriculture, urban and environmental use. 2. Water Use Efficiency Element *Water Use Efficiency Element objectives are to:* a. Reduce water demand through conservation of presently used supplies. b. Improve water quality by altering volume, concentration, timing and location of irrigation and wastewater return flows. c. Improve ecosystem health by increasing in-stream flows where necessary to achieve targeted benefits. *Water Use Efficiency Element priorities are to:* d. Credibly estimate past and expected performance (costs and benefits) of water conservation and recycling activities in California. e. Develop volumetric (e.g. acre-feet of water conserved) targets for agricultural and urban conservation and recycling, divided into contributions toward water supply ("real water conservation"), in-stream flows, and improved water quality. f. Make progress to achieve the Agriculture Water Use Efficiency quantifiable objectives for the 21 designated regions.

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	Specific geographic areas of near term focus include: g. Twenty-one regions designated in Appendix A of the Program Plan available at the following website: (http://calwater.ca.gov/Archives/WaterUseEfficiency/WaterUseEfficiencyQuantifiableObjectives.shtml) 3. Drinking Water Quality Element *Drinking Water priorities for watershed projects are to:* a. Advance understanding of how watersheds connect to both local and statewide drinking water supplies. Projects that advance efforts to develop and implement regional drinking water quality management plans are particularly important. Watershed groups are encouraged to work with both local water utilities and with the CALFED program to develop plans that identify the status of existing water quality and the water quality goals within the region, identify connections to other regions, and develop strategies for water quality improvement or maintenance. These plans can be incorporated into integrated regional water management plans or built upon existing resource management plans. b. Support efforts to understand how source improvement actions interact with water management actions, and improved treatment to improve drinking water quality at the tap. c. Educate stakeholders and the public on the connections between watersheds and drinking water supplies. d. Reduce stormwater runoff through projects that protect or restore natural hydrology. e. Reduce pollutant loadings from sources that may contribute drinking water pollutants of concern including animal grazing, animal feeding operations, irrigated agriculture, managed wetlands, and urban areas. (Reduce loadings of pollutants that have the greatest impact on drinking water supplies. (Pollutants identified as being of most drinking water quality concern in the Delta are organic carbon, bromide, salinity, nutrients, turbidity, taste and odor producing compounds, and pathogens. Other pollutants such as arsenic, perchlorate, and herbicides are of local or regional concern.) *Specific geographic areas of near term focus include:* f. Delta islands

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	g. Delta tributaries below the major dams h. San Joaquin Valley i. Sacramento Valley j. Watersheds that directly affect State or federal water project canals or reservoirs. Proximity to drinking water intakes or groundwater recharge areas for drinking water wells is an important consideration. 4. <u>Conveyance Element</u> *Conveyance Element objectives are to:* a. Modify the existing conveyance system for water supply, water quality, flood protection and ecosystem benefits b. Improve pumping operations of the State Water Project to increase reliability and enhance fish protection *Near term priorities are:* c. Construct permanent operable barriers and increase the maximum SWP export capacity to 8,500 cubic feet per second (South Delta Improvements Program) d. Construct the Delta Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie e. Complete the Delta Cross Channel and the Through Delta Facility studies f. Complete the studies on South Delta Hydrodynamics, Water Quality, and Fish g. Complete the studies on Delta Smelt and Fish Facilities h. Continue south Delta fish facilities improvements i. Implement north Delta Flood Control and Ecosystem Improvements j. Implement lower San Joaquin River Flood Protections Improvements 5. <u>Storage Element</u>

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	Storage Element objectives are to: a. Provide financial and technical assistance to implement 1/2 million to 1 million acre-feet of new, locally managed groundwater storage b. Pursue specific opportunities for new off-stream storage sites and expansion of existing on-stream storage sites as identified in the Record of Decision *Storage Element priorities include:* c. Groundwater conjunctive management projects that will contribute to an accumulated capacity of 500 Thousand Acre Feet to 1 Million Acre Feet. d. Increase water supply reliability statewide through planned, coordinated local management and use of groundwater and surface water resources. e. Develop a basic understanding of individual groundwater basins and their relationship to watersheds. f. Identify basin management strategies and objectives. g. Plan and conduct groundwater studies. h. Design and construct conjunctive use projects. 6. <u>Water Transfers Element</u> *Water Transfers Element objectives are to:* a. Develop a more effective water transfer market b. Respect water rights, and protect environmental and economic conditions c. Streamline the approval process of state and federal agencies for water transfers *Water Transfers Element priorities are to:* d. Increase the availability of existing facilities for water transfers e. Lower transaction costs through permit streamlining f. Increase the availability of market information to stakeholder and permitting agencies

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**
	7. Environmental Water Account Element *Environmental Water Account Element objectives are to:* a. Provide protection to the at-risk fish species in the Bay-Delta estuary through environmentally beneficial changes in SWP/CVP operations at no uncompensated water cost to the project's water users b. Better protection for fish and habitats at critical times by providing water in a flexible manner other than solely through strict requirements. c. Increase water supply reliability by allowing projects to meet environmental and water supply needs at the same time. *Environmental Water Account Element priorities are to:* d. Continue to provide protection to the fish of the Bay-Delta through changes in SWP/CVP operations e. Continue short term water purchases, but shift to making multi-year agreements as the core part of the acquisition strategy f. Assess SWP/CVP demand buy-down to manage EWA debt. g. Evaluate the potential for land retirement and drainage mitigation for EWA Assets h. Explore coordination of New Bullards Bar and Oroville Reservoir operations i. Investigate groundwater banking capacity for EWA assets j. Complete the Long Term EWA EIS/EIR k. Provide an average of 374 thousand acre feet (TAF) of water for fish habitat actions (250-490 TAF, depending on year type). l. Acquire fixed assets of 210 TAF in critical, 230 TAF in dry, and 250 TAF in other year types, measured in south-of- Delta equivalents (water used to compensate for Delta pumping curtailments must be returned to the projects south of Delta). That water may be purchased and/or stored upstream of the Delta. In such cases, additional water is usually required to offset conveyance and Delta losses. (The phrase "south of Delta equivalents" indicates the net volume required after accounting for such losses).

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	m. Acquire south-of-Delta water storage capability and/or its functional equivalent to bridge high demand periods for the EWA. Functional equivalents may include additional purchases, agreements with the projects to carry debt, or other comparable arrangements. n. Use multi-year wet/dry year exchanges and wet year uneven exchanges to augment assets and manage EWA assets. **Ecosystem Restoration Program Summary** Objectives and priorities for the next 3-5 years 8. <u>Ecosystem Restoration overall objectives:</u> a. Achieve recovery of at-risk native species dependent on the Delta and Suisun Bay as the first step toward establishing large, self-sustaining populations of these species; support similar recovery of at-risk native species in San Francisco Bay and the watershed above the estuary; and minimize the need for future endangered species listings by reversing downward population trends of native species that are not listed. b. Rehabilitate natural processes in the Bay-Delta estuary and its watershed to fully support, with minimal ongoing human intervention, natural aquatic and associated terrestrial biotic communities and habitats, in ways that favor native members of those communities. c. Maintain and/or enhance populations of selected species for sustainable commercial and recreational harvest, consistent with the other ERP strategic goals. d. Protect and/or restore functional habitat types in the Bay-Delta estuary and its watershed for ecological and public values such as supporting species and biotic communities, ecological processes, recreation, scientific research, and aesthetics. e. Prevent the establishment of additional nonnative invasive species and reduce the negative ecological and economic impacts of established nonnative species in the Bay-Delta estuary and its watershed. f. Improve and/or maintain water and sediment quality conditions that fully support healthy and diverse aquatic ecosystems in the Bay-Delta estuary and watershed; and eliminate, to the extent possible, toxic impacts to aquatic organisms, wildlife, and people.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**

Near term priorities

g. Recover 19 at-risk native species and contribute to the recovery of 25 additional species (see Table ERP-1, below)
h. Rehabilitate natural processes related to hydrology, stream channels, sediment, floodplains and ecosystem water quality
i. Maintain and enhance fish populations critical to commercial, sport and recreational fisheries
j. Protect and restore functional habitats, including aquatic, upland and riparian, to allow species to thrive
k. Reduce the negative impacts of invasive species and prevent additional introductions that compete with and destroy native species
l. Improve and maintain water and sediment quality to better support ecosystem health and allow species to flourish

Table ERP-1:
At-risk native species of interest to the Ecosystem Restoration Program

Contribute to the recovery of these species:	
San Joaquin Valley woodrat	*Neotoma fuscipes riparia*
Salt marsh harvest mouse	*Reithrodontomys raviventris*
Riparian brush rabbit	*sylvilagus bachmani riparius*
California clapper rail	*Rallus langirostris obsoletus*
Least Bell's vireo	*Vireo bellii pusillus*
Giant garter snake	*Thamnophis gigas*
Delta green ground beetle and critical habitat	*Elaphrus viridis*
Crampton's tuctoria	*Tuctoria mucronata*
Bank swallow	*Riparia riparia*
California black rail	*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*
Greater sandhill crane	*Grus canadensis tabida*
Little willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii brewsteri*

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	**Priorities**			
		Little willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii brewsteri*	
		Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	
		Western yellow-billed cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*	
		Delta coyote-thistle	*Eryngium racemosum*	
		San Pablo California vole	*Microtus californicus sanpabloensis*	
		California yellow warbler	*Dendroica petechia brewsteri*	
		Salt marsh common yellowthroat	*Geothlypis trichas sinuosa*	
		Sacramento perch	*Archoplites interruptus*	
		Alkali milk vetch	*Astragalus tener* var. *tener*	
		Bristly sedge	*Carex comosa*	
		Point Reyes bird's-beak	*Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *Palustris*	
		Northern California black walnut native stands	*Juglans californical* var. *hindsii*	
		Delta tule pea	*Lathyrus jepsonii* var. *jepsonii*	
		Delta mudwort	*Limosella subulata*	
		Recover these species:		
		Central Valley steelhead ESU and critical habitat	*Oncorhynchus mykiss* (cv)	
		Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon ESU and critical habitat	*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (sr)	
		Delta smelt and critical habitat	*Hypomesus traspacificus*	
		Sacramento splittail	*Pogonichthys macrolepidotus*	
		Sacramento River winter-run chinook salmon ESU and critical habitat	*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (wr)	
		Lange's metalmark	*Apodemia mormo langei*	

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Valley elderberry longhorn beetle and critical habitat	*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*
Suisun thistle	*Cirsium hydrophilum* var. *hydrophilum*
Soft bird's beak	*Cordylanthus mollis* ssp. *mollis*
Contra Costa wallflower and critical habitat	*Erysimum capitatum* ssp. *angustatum*
Antioch Dunes evening-primrose and critical habitat	*Oenothera deltoides* ssp. *howellii*
Mason's lilaeopsis	*Lilaeopsis masonii*
Central Valley fall/late fall-run chinook salmon ESU	*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (fr)
Suisun ornate shrew	*Sorex ornatus sinuosus*
San Pablo song sparrow	*Melospiza melodia samuelis*
Suisun song sparrow	*Melospiz melodia maxillaris*
Green sturgeon	*Acipenser medirostris*
Longfin smelt	*Spirinchus thaleichthys*
Suisun Marsh aster	*Aster lentus*

Specific geographic areas of near term focus include:

m. Sacramento River and;
n. Battle Creek
o. Butte Creek
p. Clear Creek
q. Deer Creek
r. Yolo Bypass
s. San Joaquin River and;

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	t. Cosumnes River u. Tuolumne River v. Merced River w. North Delta x. Suisun Marsh and Bay y. San Pablo Bay, including the Napa and Petaluma rivers and local creeks 9. Levee System Integrity Element Summary Short term objectives and priorities for the next 3-5 years Levee System Integrity Element overall objectives: a. Improve levees to a higher standard for greater flood protection b. Improve emergency response capabilities c. Ensure levee maintenance and habitat needs are met d. Improve coordination of permit processes e. Develop adequate and reliable funding for levee maintenance Near term priorities f. Provide Base Level Protection – Base level protection includes actions to understand and reduce the risk of catastrophic levee failure. These actions provide funding to help levee maintaining agencies preserve existing levees, and reconstruct all Delta levees to the PL84-99 Delta specific standard. g. Special Improvement Projects – Special Improvement Project actions are those that will enhance flood protection beyond base level protection for certain islands protecting public benefits such as water quality, life and personal property, agricultural production, cultural resources, recreation, the ecosystem and local and statewide infrastructure. There is no action proposed under this portion of the program until accomplishing base level protection on the critical islands.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
	h. Levee Subsidence Control Plan – These are actions to develop best management practices to minimize the risk to levee integrity from land subsidence. i. Emergency Management and Response - Emergency Management and Response actions are targeted to enhance the existing emergency management response capability of local, State, and Federal agencies to rapidly respond to levee emergencies. *Specific geographic areas of near term focus include:* j. San Joaquin-Sacramento River Delta region 10. <u>CALFED Watershed Program Goals and Objectives</u> a. Broaden participation in watershed partnerships to improve community capacity to manage watersheds and achieve desired conditions. b. Encourage more communities to become involved in watershed management and assist with achieving goals of the Bay-Delta Program. c. Advance the application of science among watershed partnerships through education, and improved tools and information. d. Foster and support strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of watershed activities. e. Maintain and enhance the communication network among the watershed stakeholders to ensure continued information exchange and collaboration. f. Integrate Watershed Program implementation with the other CALFED program elements with emphasis on Water Use Efficiency and Ecosystem Restoration and Drinking Water Quality to ensure that the benefits of local stewardship are more fully realized and each program's effectiveness is enhanced. g. Align activities of agencies, the CALFED Watershed Program and other entities to achieve mutual objectives and to enhance the ability of the implementing and cooperating agencies to manage the Watershed Program.

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VI. Priorities Located in Regional Water Board 4	Priorities
Department Boating and Waterways (Agency ID: DBW)	1. Development of Decision Support Systems (DSS) utilizing the GIS database under development by the Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (comprised of the Resources Agency, SCC, CA Coastal Commission, Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and NOAA) to develop a suite of tools to assist coastal managers, engineers and regulators in making sound regional-based decisions regarding beneficial reuse of sediment in an environmental responsible manner through the development and implementing a the CA Sediment Master Plan (SMP). 2. Project to designate and permit two new nearshore /onshore sites to beneficially reuse acceptable dredge material to renourish sediment impaired (coastal erosion hotspots with a lack of natural sediment) areas. Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties are the two likely targets areas for this project. 3. Detailed monitoring to characterize the affects and impacts of turbidity in nearshore waters derived from a beach restoration project to provide the scientific basis to develop clear and effective water quality and TMDL permit guidelines for future projects. The project location is subject to the availability of a viable and study-worthy restoration project in southern California.
Department of Conservation (Agency ID: DOC)	1. Continue and expand the watershed coordinator grant program statewide with the goal of creating an environment that encourages Watershed Coordinators to collaborate, cooperate and work with diverse stakeholders to build local capacity to implement watershed improvement projects. 2. Assessment of Abandoned Mines in order to map, analyze and remediate abandoned mines with chemical hazards including: a. Water sampling/ monitoring upstream and downstream of abandoned mines. b. Biological sampling for toxicity c. Rock and soil sampling and analysis d. Research historical records e. Plant community studies on and around abandoned mine lands. f. Ground/aerial mapping abandoned mines using GPS. g. Geologic mapping of abandoned mines h. Statistical data analysis

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	3. Remediation of acid rock drainage or other chemical hazards discharging into impacted waterways (303d listed) from abandoned mines.
California Coastal Commission (Agency ID: CCC)	The Critical Coastal Areas (CCA) Program is designed to identify coastal areas where water quality is threatened or impacted by new or expanding development and to accelerate the implementation of California's Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program Plan so that water quality is protected or restored. Of the 101 coastal areas identified by the CCA program the areas listed below are the highest priority based on existing water quality conditions, value and sensitivity of coastal resources, new or expanding threats to beneficial uses, and degree of local support for watershed-based planning efforts. Priority work in each of these watersheds is to complete watershed-based plans that assess sources of water quality impairment, threats to water quality from new and expanding development, status of NPS management measure implementation (see the California NPS Plan) and estimations of impervious surface area, drainage density and waste loading under current and planned conditions. Plans should identify appropriate actions to protect or restore coastal waters including but not limited to implementation of source control, site design and treatment control BMPs, application of all appropriate NPS management measures and development of land use regulations that protect coastal water quality. **1. Mugu Lagoon/Revelon Slough** **2. Mugu Lagoon to Latigo Point** **3. Malibu Creek** 4. **Ballona Creek**

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California Department of Forestry (Agency ID: CDF)	**Please note:** Applicants proposing to do projects in State Forest land must partner with CDF and provide State Water Board with a letter from CDF acknowledging the partnership. 1. **Vegetation Management (Fire and Fuels Reductions)** a. Projects that assess fuel conditions in a watershed identify for Fuel Reduction needs, especially, projects or plans that aim to reduce the risk and impact of high severity fires on watershed health (i.e. water quality, water quantity…) and wildlife habitat. b. Projects aimed at reducing fuel loads through Vegetation Management (i.e. controlled burns, vegetation / brush removal…) in high-risk areas. c. Projects that assess vegetation conditions, identify the extent of Invasive exotic plant species, provide and implement a plan for removal. d. Where appropriate plans and projects should be coordinated with existing Fire Safe Councils and community based Fire Plans (http://www.firesafecouncil.org/). e. Projects that offer technical assistance to landowners to undertake hazardous fuels reduction. 2. **Sediment** a. Development and implementation of Road Management Plans to achieve long term reductions in road-related sediment in forested landscapes. b. Projects that implement priorities from existing sediment TMDLs. 3. **Monitoring** to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures that are designed to reduce sediment loads or evaluate the impact of management practices on stream temperature. 4. **Canopy Conditions -** Inventory and evaluate the adequacy of riparian buffer zones to provide shade for stream channels. Implement management practices that promote the development and restoration of riparian vegetation that provides stream shade in existing temperature TMDLs. 5. **Large Woody Debris -** Assessment of riparian vegetation and in-stream large woody debris. Develop and implement management plans that will provide for both short and long-term recruitment of LWD to stream channels. a. In the North Coast region projects should be consistent with "High Priorities" that have been identified under the DFG Coho Recovery Plan (www.dfg.ca.gov/nafwb/fishgrant.html). b. Projects that coordinate the implementation of the Forest Practices Act and the Coho Recovery Strategy. 6. **Land Conversion -** Prepare and implement Community Development Plans that promote the preservation of economically sustainable forest and range lands and discourage land conversion to residential or commercial

	development. 7. **Timber Management**- Projects that coordinate timber management permitting between CDF and other agencies to promote high-quality forest management and provide regulatory relief and incentives for non-industrial forest landowners.